# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:209
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2017
Promotion of Innovation
Chandrappa Shri B.N.

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

(a) whether it is true that no mechanism has been put in place to incubate innovative ideas at home;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether India is continuously lagging behind as a global innovation hub;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to promote innovation and inventions in the country?

## Answer

???????? ??? ?????? ???????????? (????????? ??????)(??????? ??????? ???????)
THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY
(SHRIMATI NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) to (e): Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (e) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 209 FOR ANSWER ON 31ST JULY, 2017.

(a) & (b): No Madam, this is not true. A large number of incubators are established in the country to incubate innovative ideas. As per information provided by various departments, there are 109 incubators supported by Department of Science and Technology (DST), 20 incubators supported by Department of Biotechnology (DBT), 33 incubators supported by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and 19 incubators supported by NITI Aayog under Atal Innovation Mission. Ministry of Human Resources Development is also collaborating with DST in setting up 15 incubators. These incubators assist entrepreneurs in executing their ideas.

(c) & (d): India has improved its rank in Global Innovation Index (GII) from 81st in 2015 to 66th in 2016, and further six places to 60th in 2017.
In the GII, 2017, India has retained the top rank in Information and Communication Technology Service Export for the past four years. Key findings of GII, 2017 show the rise of India as an emerging innovation centre in Asia. India, 60th globally, is the top-ranked economy in Central and Southern Asia. The same is evidenced in the GII, 2017 Report.
(e): India has a well-established legislative, administrative and judicial framework to safeguard Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) which meets its international obligations while utilizing the flexibilities provided in the international regime to address its developmental concerns. India has a Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) compliant, robust, equitable and dynamic IPR regime.

The Government has taken a number of steps to promote innovative research in scientific research institutions in the country. Some of the steps taken by the Government of India to promote innovation and inventions in India, are as follows:

â€¢ The Government has created a new structure for basic sciences by establishing a Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) in the country as an autonomous body through an Act of Parliament. Creation of SERB enhances the level of basic research funding significantly.
â€¢ The National Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Policy, 2016 was adopted on 12.05.2016 as a vision document to guide future development of IPRs in the country.
â€¢ In order to promote innovation in the country, Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council, a Public Sector Undertaking under the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has been supporting innovative research & development activities in the area of biotechnology through various programs. The support is provided across all stages of product development including ideation, proof of concept, prototyping, pilot scale development, validation and product development.
â€¢ Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) runs various schemes like Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs (TIDE) Scheme to foster innovation.
â€¢ Significant progress has been made under the Atal Innovation Mission by Niti Aayog to promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship by providing mentoring and infrastructure support to entrepreneurs.

â€¢ Creating and exploiting synergies in the IPR environment is of paramount importance. The administration of Copyright Act, 1957 and Semiconductor Integrated Circuits Layout-Design Act, 2000, along with their associated Registries, has been transferred to the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP). Subsequently, under the Finance Act, 2017, the Copyright Board has also been merged in the Intellectual Property Appellate Board.
â€¢ There have been wide spread and far reaching amendments in the Patents Rules, 2003 and the Trademarks Rules, 2002. Thus, the IP processes have been re-engineered to streamline them and make them more user-friendly.
â€¢ Manpower in the Intellectual Property offices has been ramped up significantly with recruitment of an additional 458 Patent Examiners apart from the existing 130. This augmentation of manpower has already had a salutary effect on the examination and disposal of patent applications. For instance, the number of patent applications examined in the first quarter of 2017-18 are 11898, as compared to just 1932 in the corresponding period last year.
â€¢ Apart from country-wide awareness programmes, an IPR Enforcement toolkit for the Police has also been prepared, which is a ready reckoner for police officials across the country in dealing with IP crimes.
â€¢ Special benefits have been made available for startups and Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).
â€¢ The Government has entered into an agreement with World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) for establishment of Technology and Innovation Support Centers (TISC).
â€¢ The Commercial Courts set up under the Commercial Courts, Commercial Division and Commercial Appellate Division of High Courts Act, 2015 deal with IP disputes.

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